

REMARKS

This communication is being filed in response to the final Office Action having a mailing date of February 7, 2005. Claims 8, 11, 30, and 32 are amended as shown. No new matter has been added. With this response, claims 1-4, 6, 8-18, 20-28, and 30-40 are pending in the application.

In the final Office Action, the Examiner acknowledged the applicants' claim for foreign priority, but indicated that the applicants still have not filed certified copies of the priority European applications. The certified copies of the priority European applications will be filed after receipt of a Notice of Allowance.

In the final Office Action, claims 11-13 were objected to because of grammatical errors. Claim 11 is amended as shown to address the Examiner's objections. Accordingly, claim 11 and the claims that depend thereon are now in allowable form.

In the final Office Action, claims 8 and 30-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. More specifically, claims 8 and 32 were rejected based on a lack of antecedent basis, while claims 30-31 and 33-34 were rejected on the basis of claim dependency issues. These rejected dependent claims are amended as shown to overcome the Examiner's objections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and thus are now allowable.

Claims 1-4, 6, 9-10, 14-18, 20-28, and 35-40 were allowed by the Examiner. The applicants thank the Examiner for his careful review of these claims and the cited references, and for indicating that the claims are allowed.

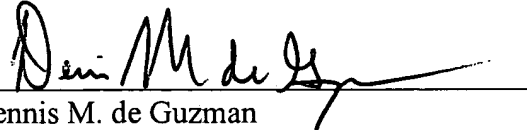
The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Application No. 10/025,375
Reply to Office Action dated February 7, 2005

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable.
Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis M. de Guzman", is written over a horizontal line.

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